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**PROGRAM:****BARRY FARBER****DATE:****October 20, 1966****STATION OR NETWORK:****WMAL Radio****TIME:****7:30 P.M.****CLAIMS SVN ELECTION -- GIMMICK OF CIA****CPYRGHT**

**BARRY FARBER:** Mr. Claiborne, most Americans still rejoice over the election results in Viet Nam -- September 1966. Do you realize you are about to pour cold water over some exposed national nerves?

**CLAIBORNE:** Well, I am not about to pour cold water for the sake of pouring cold water -- I have to say what I think -- and I do think that any country is better off for facing the facts, rather than dreams and illusions.

**FARBER:** Well, how do you know that you're facing the facts and aren't just conjuring up more dreams and illusions?

**CLAIBORNE:** Well, if you recall the letter which started this off -- this is the letter that appeared in the New York Times -- I said the evidences being offered that this election was a great victory for freedom didn't strike me as being very good evidence. In other words, what we had here was the government -- and we know, everybody knows -- that this government is a military government, a dictatorial government -- the government compiled a registration list, the government held the voting, the government counted the votes and then the government told us that they won a great victory. Well, now I wouldn't believe an election like that in this country -- never mind in Viet Nam.

**FARBER:** You called the South Viet Nam election a gimmick staged by the fertile minds of the CIA?

**CLAIBORNE:** I said that it had the earmarks of a gimmick -- it looked like that to me.

**FARBER:** Do you think it was a gimmick of the CIA?

**CLAIBORNE:** Well now you're asking me for a guess -- and I wasn't there. I don't know what goes on in the CIA, they don't tell me, they don't tell anybody, but if you ask me for a guess, I would say my best guess is that the CIA had something to do with staging it.